



# Notes

## Sept 9, 2009

Meeting location:

***Mill City Museum***  
704 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

### ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, St. Paul  
Jana Larson, Hamline U. - CGEE  
Lane Christianson, City of Minneapolis  
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA/NPS  
Erica Sniegowski, MWMO  
Chandi McCracken, MCWD  
Tracy Leavenworth, RWMWD  
Leslie Stovring, Eden Prairie  
Hillary Oppman, Longfellow Community Council

Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth  
Tracy Fredin, CGEE  
Carrie Mack, RWMWD  
Randy Thoreson, NPS  
April Rust, Project WET, DNR  
Lark Weller, NPS  
Cherie Wagner, Freshwater Society  
Chris Soutter, RWMWD  
Angie Hong, Washington Conservation District  
Louise Watson, RWMWD

### **Featured Presenter: John O. Anfinson, PhD, National Park Service Historian** **“Colors of a River: Pollution and the Upper Mississippi River”**

What was the Mississippi River like when only American Indians and early explorers paddled its waters? Was it clear like a swimming pool or rust-colored with the tannins of decaying leaves and vegetation? Was it clouded with sediment? How far down could you have seen? How did it smell or taste? When did we first begin affecting the Mississippi River’s water quality and how? And, how bad did it get before someone did something about it? National Park Service Historian, Dr. John O. Anfinson, will address each of these questions and discuss the latest pollution issues facing the Mississippi.

### **STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

- One of the Best state fairs ever! An estimated **43,200 people visited our watershed exhibits** at the DNR building. Thanks to all who volunteered to staff the booth!
- Metro Media Campaign is just **kicking off our Comcast television ads**: we’ll be running PLOP and RUBBER DUCKY PSAs for the next six weeks. In addition, we are piloting a 15-second version of plop on Comcast.net so that people who check their email or use Comcast internet service will see our ad and be able to link to our website.
- Metro Media Campaign just **sent out another funding ask to MS4s**. We are still behind on reaching our funding goals for the year, having raised \$49,350 so far this year and needing an additional \$23,227 to pay for this year’s campaign.
- Metro Media Campaign just completed our first photo shoot, creating pictures to illustrate stormwater concepts. They will be downloadable on the [cleanwatermn.org](http://cleanwatermn.org) website and free for cities to use in newsletters and other publications

### **MEMBER UPDATES:**

- Board of Minnesota Naturalists Association hosting a conference in Chetek the first weekend in November. Wes Jackson, Michael Kududu and Jim Gilbert will be keynote speakers. Look for email from April Rust for more information.
- Minnesota Hydrology 101 guide (beta version) – a resource for teachers to use when planning

curriculum - is put together and April Rust is looking for people to review it or teachers who would be interested in using it in classroom prep and giving feedback.

- Raingarden tour in Longfellow this Sunday.
- Mississippi River Forum on TMDLs September 18.

#### **NOTES:**

- **Next Steering Committee Meeting: Wednesday September 16**, 9 – 11 am at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets each month to determine agendas and help steer programs. Meetings are open to WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, Oct 14, 2009, 9:00-11:00** at Capitol Region Watershed District, 1410 Energy Park Dr, Ste 4, St. Paul. The meeting will feature a presentation by Cheri Wagner, Freshwater Society
- Meetings of the WaterShed Partners are regularly the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

***FFI:** Contact a member of the steering committee or Jana Larson at 651-523-2812*

#### ***2009 Steering Committee:***

*Jennifer Dullum, City of Farmington,  
651-280-6845, jdullum@ci.farmington.mn.us*

*Trevor Russell, Friends of the Mississippi River,  
651-222-2193, trussell@fmr.org*

*Tracy Fredin, Hamline University, Center for  
Global Environmental Education, 651-523-3105,  
tfredin@gw.hamline.edu*

*Elizabeth Storey, Capitol Region Watershed  
District, 651-644-8888,  
elizabeth@capitolregionwd.org*

*Angie Hong, Washington Conservation District,  
Phone: (651) 275-1136 ext. 35,  
angie.hong@mnwcd.org*

*Lyndon Torstenson, National Park Service,  
Mississippi National River & Recreation Area,  
651-290-3030, x232, lyndon\_torstenson@nps.gov*

*Denise Leezer, Minnesota Pollution Control  
Agency, 651-757-2523,  
Denise.Leezer@state.mn.us*

*Anne Weber, City of St. Paul Public Works,  
651-266-6245, anne.weber@ci.stpaul.mn.us*